National Aeronautics and Space Administration **Headquarters** Washington, DC 20546-0001



May 31, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT:

Determination regarding attendance by NASA employees at the Intrepid

Museum for arrival of the Space Shuttle *Enterprise* on June 5, 2012

On June 5, 2012, the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum, a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, will host an event in New York City to celebrate the arrival of the Space Shuttle *Enterprise*.

Approximately 200 people are expected to attend, including local government officials; members of Congress; representatives from academia, not for profit foundations and science centers; and members of the public who have been engaged in efforts related to displaying the *Enterprise*. Light refreshments worth less than \$20 will be served. The festivities will also include, at the invitee's option, transit in the immediate area aboard a Circle Line vessel accompanying the barge transporting *Enterprise*. However, all decisions on who to invite are handled by the Museum, and seating is unassigned.

I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). Attendance at the event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information regarding various NASA programs with individuals and representatives of various communities who have been involved in civic efforts related to the Shuttle's display. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the Intrepid Museum, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the Museum, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Adam F. Greenstone